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A BRIEF  
**RELATION**

OF THE  
Just and Undeniable



**T I T L E**  
O F  
**ALPHONSO**

THE SIXTH,  
KING of *PORTUGAL*,  
Now Reigning, 1661.

Warranted  
By the Fundamental **L A W S** of  
that **N A T I O N**.

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**B Y**  
*Raphe Whitfeld*, Gent.

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**L O N D O N**,  
Printed by *John Hayes*, in Little Woodstreet.  
1661.

RELATION

OF THE  
Laws and Ordinances

TITLE

ALPHONSO

KING OF PORTUGAL

Now Ruling 1661

Warranted

By the Fundamental Laws of  
the Nation.

BY

George Whitehead Gent.

LONDON

Printed by J. St. John in Little Wood Street.

1661



## A brief Relation of the just Title of *Alphonso*, now King of *Portugal*.

**I**T is the opinion of many, that the Right and Title to the Crown of *Portugal* resides in the Kings of *Spain*, an Errour springing either from their not knowing the Genealogies of those Princes, or from an apprehension that 60 years possession by the *Austrian* Family could make a Title indubitable, which was never warranted by right of blood, or by the Laws of *Portugal*. It is true, *Philip* the Second, who seized upon that Kingdom, was the Son of a *Portugal* Princess, but she had a Brother, whose Issue yet remains, and from whom descends the present King of *Portugal*, who being descended from a Brother, must be preferred before the issue of the Sister, the Male being adjudged the better by all the Laws of Christendome, though perhaps among the Amazons the Laws were otherwise. But to make good this Title, I must run back to the beginning of the *Portugal* Monarchy, and present you with some of their Fundamental Laws whose Authority can never be gainsaid.

In the Year 1139. *Don Alphonso*, General of the *Portu-*

gal Army, then ready to encounter with Five *Mahometan* Kings, commanding an Army of four hundred thousand *Moors*, was unanimously saluted King, which Legion of Locusts by his courage and conduct were put to flight, and easily became the first Trophies to this conquering King. And now the angry storm of War blown over, the King betakes himself to the Arts of Peace, to make good Laws, which was done by assembling the three Estates in the City of *Lamego*, where were enacted many Laws, which they justly account their Fundamentals, as unalterable as those of the *Medes* and *Persians*, made Sacred by the observation of them both by Prince and People, to the holy tie of which they both oblig'd their Faith; these Laws then are the ground on which we build, and from whence we shall easily justifie the undoubted Title of the now King of *Portugal*.

First, it was Enacted, that his Son, and Grandson, and so forward, should reign after him *in secula seculorum*, but if the King have only Daughters, the Eldest should be Queen after her Father, upon condition she be married to a Native of *Portugal*, and that he be a Nobleman, who shall not take upon him the name of a King, untill he hath a Son born, nor wear a Crown on His head, nor take the right hand of his Wife.

But that which I insist on, is the last clause which I shall faithfully transcribe.

*Sit ista Lex in sempiternum, quod Prima Filia Regis accipiat maritum de Portugale, ut non veniat regnum ad extraneos; & si casaverit cum Principe extraneo, non sit Regina:*

Let it be a Law for ever, that the Kings Eldest Daughter marry a Native of *Portugal*, that so the Crown may never descend to strangers; and in case she should marry a Prince that is a Stranger let her not be

quia

Queen:

(3)

*quia nunquam volumus  
nostrum Regnum ire de  
Portugalesibus qui nos sua  
fortitudine Reges fecerunt,  
sine adiutorio alieno, per  
suam fortitudinem & cum  
sanguine suo.*

Queen: for we will never have  
our Kingdom go out of the  
Race of the *Portugals*, who have  
made us Kings by their own  
Valour, without torreign affi-  
stance, by their own valour, and  
with the effusion of their own  
blood.

This Law was put in execution after the death of *Fernando*, the ninth King of that Race; for *Donna Beatrice* his Daughter, being married to a forreign Prince, was excluded, and King *Fohn* the First was advanced to the Throne, from whom descended *Emmanuel* the fourteenth King, who had six Sons, and two Daughters.

1 *Don Fohn*, afterwards King, Father of *Fohn* Prince of *Portugal*, Father of *Sebastian*, King of *Portugal*, slain in *Africa*, 1578. without Issue.

2 Son was *Don Lewis*, who left no Issue Legitimate.

3 Son *Don Fernando*, who died without Issue.

4 Son *Don Alphonso* Cardinal, Archbishop of *Lisbon*, and Abbot of *Alcobaza*, never married.

5 Son *Don Henry*, Cardinal, and Archbishop of *Braga*, afterwards King.

6 Son *Don Edward*, who left two Daughters, the Eldest was *Mary*, married out of the Kingdom to *Alexander* Duke of *Parma*; the Younger was *Katherine*, married in *Portugal* to *Fohn*, Duke of *Braganza*, Grandfather of *Fohn* the Fourth, King of *Portugal*, Father of *Alphonso* now reigning.

Of King *Emmanuel's* two Daughters, the Eldest was married to the Emperour *Charles* the 5th. Father of *Philip* the Second, King of *Spain*, Grandfather of *Philip* the fourth.

Fourth, from whom it was regained by the Right Heir.

The youngest Daughter of *Emmanuel* King of *Portugal* was married to the Duke of *Savoy*, Father of *Philip* Duke of *Savoy*.

After the death of King *Sebastian*, slain as aforesaid, without Issue, the Crown of *Portugal* fell to his great Uncle, *Henry* the Cardinal, at 67 years of age, who swayed the Scepter two years, and died unmarried, now the Masculine Race of *Emmanuel* being extinct, the Female, according to the Fundamental Laws of *Lamego*, were to succeed.

There were several Pretenders, as *Philip* the Second of *Spain*, whose Mother was daughter to *Emmanuel*, and the Duke of *Savoy*, descended from the youngest Daughter of *Emmanuel*, and both of them could but pretend a Title, for they had no Right.

The True and Undoubted Right rested in the Children of Don *Edward*, one of the Sons of *Emmanuel* as aforesaid, and Brother to the King of *Spain*'s Mother, and the Duke of *Parma*'s the fore-mentioned Pretenders. He left, as we said, two Daughters, *Mary*, the Eldest, married to the Duke of *Parma*, and *Katherine*, the Youngest, to the Duke of *Braganza*. *Rainuccio* Prince of *Parma*, though the Son of the Eldest Daughter of Prince *Edward*, could not succeed, because his Mother was married out of *Portugal*; for the Fundamental Laws, which were those of *Lamego*, as upon the Failure of the Male Line, they made the Female capable of Succession, did it with this restriction, that they should be married within *Portugal*, if they married any Foreign Prince, they should have no Right in the Succession, which was barr'd by this Match of Princess *Mary* with the Duke of *Parma*, an *Italian*, and it was great reason that this Law, which was

win-



twin-born with the Monarchy of *Portugal*, should be justly observed; and was so, after the death of *Don Fernando*, the 9th. King, whose Daughter was excluded the Succession, by vertue of this Law of *Lamego*, which both Prince and People were sworn to observe; nor can any think it hard measure to the Dukes of *Parma*, to be excluded the Succession to the Crown, being descended of Prince *Edwards* Eldest Daughter, and that the Duke of *Braganza*, descended of the Younger Daughter, who married with a Native of *Portugal*, should have the undoubted Right: For had it not been for that Law, which excludes the Daughter of *Portugal*, if married to a stranger, *Emmanuel* (the Father of Prince *Edward*, from whom the Duke of *Parma* claims) had never been King, but it had gone with the Daughter of *Fernando* the 9th. King of *Portugal*, justly excluded by their Laws, for marrying with a Forreigner; & the posterity of the Eldest Daughter cannot quarrel with this Clause in the Law of *Lamego*, seeing it was that very Clause, and that alone, that brought the Sovereignty to the Line of *Emmanuel*, from whom the Prince of *Parma* descends. *Katherine* the Youngest Daughter of Prince *Edward*, married to the Duke of *Braganza*, a Native of *Portugal*, could only lay a just claim to the Crown. But *Philip* the Second, of *Spain*, though he could not pretend so far as the Duke of *Parma*, as being descended from a Daughter, whose Brothers Heirs must in all reason be preferred before hers, yet to acquire a Kingdom, which might joyn the whole Continent of *Spain* together in one hand, he disinherits all Right, and by his Martial Favourite the Duke of *Alva*, invades *Portugal* with an Army, marching directly towards *Lisbon*, where wisely striking at the Head, he brought the whole Kingdom on their Knees, and receives a Crown, adorned with the Richest Jewels of the East,  
(that

(that Nation having many rich Factories there) which hapned in the Year 1580. Being thus possess'd, he left it to his Son *Philip* 3<sup>d</sup> and he to *Philip* 4<sup>th</sup> till the Year 1640. When on a sudden, not only *Portugal*, but the Island and Territories thereunto belonging (*Centa* in *Barbary* excepted) fell from the *Spaniards* like a Dream, and awakened its old Glory and Freedom, in the Person of the Duke of *Braganza* (Grandson of that Duke of *Braganza* that married *Katherine*, Daughter of Prince *Edward*, Son of *Emmanuel*, King of *Portugal*) then presently proclaimed by the Name of *John* the 4<sup>th</sup>. King of *Portugal*, and so own'd by all Princes, whom the *Austrian* Greatness did not over-awe; who dying, left his Crown descending by a Just and Undoubted Title to *Alphonso* the Sixth, now King of *Portugal*.

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